First Congregational United Church of Christ, Ypsilanti

Journey

http://cnbjonghyun.tumblr.com/post/22260388805/a-journey-walking-along-the-rail-where-no-one

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here.

March 8, 2015 10:00 am

Third Sunday in Lent

An open and affirming community committed to peace and justice

WELCOME TO OUR WORSHIP & LIFE TOGETHER: We invite you to participate in this community of faith. If you are a visitor for the first time, please fill out the welcome pad being passed around. We invite you to join us for Friendship Time (refreshments and conversation) at the conclusion of worship.

WE WELCOME CHILDREN so that they may come to understand the worship experience. Families are encouraged to talk about the parts of worship so children may understand and participate. During the worship service we have a time for children with the minister on the rug in the center of the worship space followed by Sunday school (September-May).

Hymns are found in the following books:
NCH *(Black, hardcover "New Century Hymnal")*
Sing! *(Black, softcover, "Sing! Prayer and Praise" songbook)*
ES *(Green, softcover "Everflowing Streams" songbook)*

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Invitation

All people are welcome to participate in this community of faith
If you have questions about becoming a member of this church, please speak with the Pastor or any member of the Community.

Prelude Sonya Belaya

***Gathering Hymn** **"In the Bulb There Is A Flower"** **433 NCH**

Welcome Donna Eyster

Guests, please complete a Visitor Card and place in the offering plate so we may have a record of your visit.
We hope you will join us for Friendship Time and refreshments after the service.

Thank you for worshiping with us today!

Please rise in body or spirit as you are able

Announcements Donna Eyster

Ringing the Bell

GATHERING TO WORSHIP

***Hymn** **"Guide My Feet"** **497 NCH**

Lenten Candles

Meditation - Week Three Carol Hall

Unison Prayer

Everlasting God, whose law is perfect and whose judgments are just, speak and act among us today to challenge all we do in your church and in our lives that is out of step with your law so we may be raised to new life. Help us become authentic witnesses to your love in all we do, wherever we go, that the world might come to know and serve you. In the name of Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

Solo "Shout to the Lord" Tiffanie Waldron

LISTENING FOR GOD

Old Testament Reading Exodus 20:1-17 Donna Eyster

Hymn **"Jesus, Jesus, Oh, What a Wonderful Child"** **136 NCH**

Children's Time *children are invited to come forward* Carol Hall

New Testament Reading John 2:13-22 Carol Hall

Reflection **"Trading on the Rules"** Carol Hall

***Hymn** **"Wade in the Water"** **87 SING**

CONVERSING WITH THE HOLY ONE

Prayers of the People Carol Hall

All are invited to offer a prayer, testimony, praise report or prayer request at this time.
Please limit your sharing to one or two sentences and remember confidentiality issues.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Unison) -- Alternate Version

Carol Hall

When we say the Lord's Prayer, please feel free to follow the traditional form or use language that feels comfortable to you, e.g. Mother, Creator, God, Friend, or Realm, Kindom, Wisdom.

Offering this prayer in unison brings us together and the words illustrate our common journey

I Believe…

I believe, Lord, that
everything good in the world
comes from you.
I believe in your great love for all people
I believe that because you
preached love,
freedom and justice
You were humiliated
tortured and killed.
I believe that you continue
to suffer in our people
risen in rebellion;
that you are present
in the far off wind
that carries the weeping of the people
the oppressed who seek their imprisoned freedom.
I believe that you
accompany us in waiting for
the dawning of a new day.
I believe that you give us strength
So that death
does not find us without
having done enough
and that you will rise
in those who have died,
seeking a different world.
Amen.

- A Peasant Woman, El Salvador "let justice roll down"

RESPONDING TO OUR CALLING

Invitation to the Offering (Unison) Donna Eyster

We are invited to give ourselves fully to the worship of God. The gifts we bring are important, but even more, we are invited to commit ourselves to God's foolishness, to the way of love. May it be our passion to extend love to all of the earth's people. Amen.

Offertory Sonya Belaya

***Doxology** **"Take My Gifts"** **562 NCH**

Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
Gave me light and food and shelter, Gave me life and set me free,
Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
Now the bread of love is rising, Loaves of love to multiply!

Prayer of Dedication** ***(Unison) Carol Hall

We bring our offerings, YHWH, not to buy your favor, but to express our gratitude, not to support an institution, but to further your mission. We support this church in its efforts to challenge the false wisdom that pervades our culture. We seek to make this community of faith a center of values that are consistent with your will. May we be zealous in your service, willing to sacrifice for love's sake, and eager to embrace your word in our everyday living. Amen.

DEPARTING WITH PRAISE

***Hymn of Departure** **"Over My Head** **514 NCH**

***Benediction** Carol Hall

One Trust that this is true: God knows what you are capable of.
And encourages the goodness within you to blossom and flourish.

Many **We will look for the good in others,**
we will work for a world that blesses everyone
with the opportunities to contribute to the common good.

One God's vision for creation is revealed in the life and teaching of Jesus Christ,

during Lent we ask ourselves; how well is that vision revealed in our own lives?

Many **We will open ourselves to God's gentle persuasion.**
We will trust that we, too, have something to offer
to the world in need of hope, of justice and of peace.

- adapted from Season of Lent/Easter, Jeanyne Slettom

Postlude Sonya Belaya

(Please be seated for the Postlude)

Passing the Peace *Share a greeting with your neighbor as we transition to our snack.*

First Congregational United Church of Christ
PO Box 980413
218 North Adams Street
Ypsilanti, Michigan 48198
734-482-6980
website: ***www.ypsiucc.com***

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God is still speaking,
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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Our Volunteers	Today: March 8th	Next Sunday: March 15th
Usher	Wayne Burling	Orin Brustad
Preaching	Carol Hall	Carol Hall
Worship Leader	Donna Eyster	Wayne Burling
Worship Set-up	Donna Eyster	Wayne Burling
Acolyte	Hunter Turner	Hunter Turner
Friendship Time	Melanie Harner	Ann Marie N-T
Sunday School	Tad Wysor	Patty Sherwood

ANNOUNCEMENTS

ANNUAL MEETING OF FIRST CONGREGATIONAL UCC:

Call to Meeting
The 2015 annual meeting will be held on March 22, 2015 immediately following worship. A recommendation from council to extend a call for 1/3 time to Carol Hall will be brought to the congregation for a vote.
The proposed budget will be brought to the congregation for a vote as well.
Other business can be presented at this time.

CHOIR REHEARSALS: Choir rehearsal this week will be Tuesday at 6:30 PM Come, join the fun and try it out. We have a great time. Don't need to read music or have trained voice.

PASTORAL CARE EMERGENCIES: If you have a pastoral emergency, please contact Glenda Horvath, 734-904-0420

CONGREGATIONAL CARE: Kindly remember in your prayers our members and friends who are sick and/or shut-in. Send a card or note to lift their spirits and yours as well.

Fran Pebbles' address: *American Homes Carpenter, 3470 Carpenter Rd., Apt 332, Ypsilanti, MI 48197. Phone: 734-975-0987*

Sally Dusbiber's *address'*: *Silver Maples of Chelsea, Room 1211, 100 Silver Maples Dr., Chelsea, MI 48118. Sally's direct phone line is 734-433-2396 and the Silver Maples line is 734-475-4111, x217.*

IMMIGRATION MINISTRY (WICIR): For information about what's happening with Immigrant Rights and ***Washtenaw Interfaith Coalition for Immigrant Rights*,** or if you are interested in learning ways to help, please contact Margaret Harner at 734-483-3464 or through their Facebook page: https://www.facebook.com/WICIR .

MICHIGAN OPEN & AFFIRMING COALITION: For information about what's happening with **Michigan Open and Affirming Coalition,** or if you are interested in joining us, please contact Wayne Burling at 734-377-0696. More information can be found on their website http://www.mi-ona.org or on facebook at https://www.facebook.com/groups/onami/

WASHTENAW REGIONAL ORGANIZING COALITION: "First Congregational is a co-founding institution of the new local "organization of organizations" **WeROC (Washtenaw Regional Organizing Coalition).** In many ways, WeROC is a larger illustration of the values and mission we try to live out at First Congregational. The diverse faith congregations and labor and community organizations that make up WeROC are, at our core, focused on intentionally reweaving the frayed fabric of community -- at a time when forces are at work every day to keep us fragmented, suspicious of each other, feeling isolated and on our own. We are showing by example that people from many backgrounds and perspectives can, even today, come together in powerful ways around our common values and *actually change* unjust public policies. WeROC is a part of the S.E. Michigan organization MOSES and the national Gamaliel Foundation.
See Tad Wysor (tadwysor@gmail.com, 734 883 3225) for more on how First Congregational is connecting with current WeROC issues and actions.

OUR WEBSITE: http://www.ypsiucc.org Let Wayne know if you have any additional items to be added. He could use lots more pictures. Also check out and like our Facebook page. https://www.facebook.com/pages/First-Congregational-United-Church-of-Christ-Ypsilanti/115695119913 .

KROGER FUNDRAISER: HAVE YOU *RE-REGISTERED* WITH KROGER!! Everybody that shops at Kroger and has a shopper's card ***MUST*** register. ***Last Year's registration expired May 1st*** and you are not getting credit for you purchases until you re-register for the current year.

Go to www.kroger.com and click "**REGISTER**". Follow prompts to register your frequent shopper card number. Then link to the **Community Rewards** site and register with our church. Our number is **83263**, or you can find our name in drop down list. Any questions contact Barbara Garland, bargarland@yahoo.com, 734-662-5803.